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a control apparatus responding to control signals which include signals representative of an actual and a desired lateral position of said streamer and sensor output signals which include signals representative of an actual and a desired depth of said streamer for independently adjusting angular positions of said control surfaces thereby controlling a lateral position of said streamer and a depth of said streamer.

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15. A control device adapted for controlling a position of a marine seismic streamer, comprising:

a body mechanically connected in series between two sections of the streamer,

a sensor apparatus in the body adapted for determining an angular position of the body,

surfaces projecting outwardly from the body, each surface being rotatable about an axis, and

a control apparatus responding to control signals and sensor output signals, said control signals including signals representative of an actual and a desired lateral position of said streamer, said sensor output signals including signals representative of an actual and a desired depth of said streamer, said control apparatus independently adjusting angular positions of said surfaces thereby controlling a lateral position of said streamer and a depth of said streamer in response to said control signals and said sensor output signals.

#### REMARKS

Claims 1 through 12 and new claims 14 and 15 are in this application.

The examiner rejected claims 1-12 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Fowler in US Patent 4,711,194. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Please refer to figure 2 of the drawings of this application. Note that the control circuit 34 responds to control signals and sensor output signals. The control signals include signals representative of an actual and a desired lateral position of the streamer, and the sensor output signals include signals representative of an actual and a desired depth of the streamer. The control circuit 34 independently adjusts angular positions of the control surfaces (24 in figure 1) so as to control a lateral position of the streamer and a depth of the streamer in response to the control signals and the sensor output signals.

However, Fowler does not disclose a control circuit that responds to control signals which include signals representative of an actual and a desired lateral position of the streamer for independently adjusting angular positions of the surfaces so as to control a lateral position of the streamer.

In Fowler, column 4, lines 29-32, "The electronic circuitry is powered by batteries 72, as are depth and temperature transducers 74..."

Since the depth and temperature transducers 74 (Fowler's figure 3) are the only sensors disclosed in the Fowler reference which provide input signals to the electronic circuitry 70 (in Fowler's figure 3), there appears to be no disclosure in Fowler to teach the use of sensors or transducers for providing output control signals for input to a control circuit, where the output control signals are representative of the actual lateral position and a desired lateral position of the streamer, for controlling the lateral position of the streamer.

In the new claims 14 and 15, the concept of providing control signals indicative of the lateral position of the streamer for ultimately controlling the lateral position of the streamer (in addition to depth) is the only concept that is designed to distinguish over the Fowler reference. If any other additional differences exist between the new claims 14 and 15 and the originally filed claims, those other additional differences were made for purposes of more clearly defining the invention under 35 USC 112, and not for purposes of distinguishing over the Fowler reference.

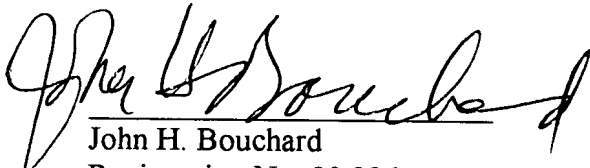
Therefore, the Fowler reference fails to support the examiner's rejection of the claims in this application.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-12, 14 and 15 is respectfully requested.

A certificate of mailing by First Class Mail is enclosed herewith, the certificate of mailing indicating that this amendment was mailed and filed on January 19, 2001.

Please charge any additional fee and credit any overpayment to deposit account 07-1078.

Respectfully Submitted,



John H. Bouchard  
Registration No. 29,286  
Attorney for Applicant

GeoQuest, a division of  
Schlumberger Technology Corporation  
Office of Patent Counsel  
5599 San Felipe, Suite 1700  
Houston, Texas 77056-2722  
(713) 513-2515

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